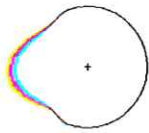


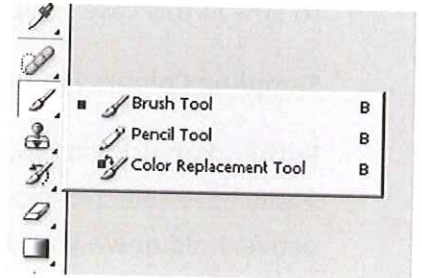
PHOTOSHOP - The Colour Replacement Tool

The Background Eraser and the Colour Replacement Tool both use the exact same technology for detecting the pixels in the image that need to be changed. The only difference is that one of them deletes pixels entirely, the other simply changes their colour.

The Colour Replacement Tool's cursor is made up of a simple circle with a target symbol in the middle, just like the Background Eraser.



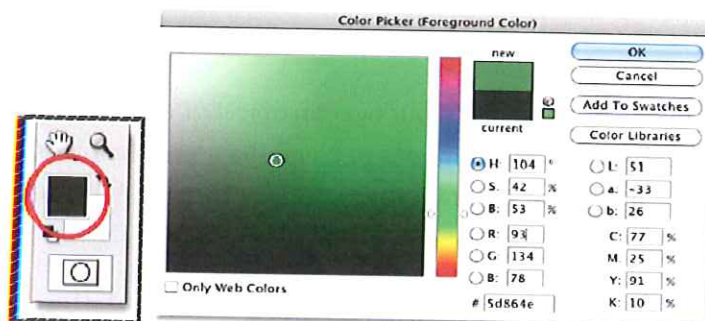
You can adjust the size of the circle directly from your keyboard using the bracket keys, which are found to the right of the letter P on most keyboards. Press the **left bracket key** ([) to make the circle smaller or the **right bracket key** (]) to make it larger.



How it works

As you drag the Colour Replacement Tool over your image, Photoshop continuously samples the colour that's directly under the target symbol in the centre of the tool's cursor. This is the colour that will be replaced, and it will be replaced with your current **Foreground colour**.

For example, if you pass the target symbol over an area of blue in your photo and your Foreground colour is set to red, any blue pixels that the larger circle passes over will be changed to red.



Black is the default Foreground colour, but it's probably not the colour you'll want to use. To change the Foreground colour, simply click directly on the colour swatch, then choose a new colour from the **Colour Picker**. Click OK to close out of the Colour Picker when you're made your selection.

Modifying the image

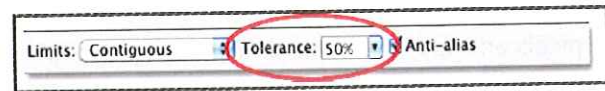


With the Colour Replacement Tool selected, and green as the Foreground Colour move the target symbol over the blue balloon in the image and click the mouse button.

As soon as the area is clicked, two things happen. First, Photoshop samples the blue colour under the target symbol so it knows which colour to replace. Then, any blue pixels that fall within the larger circle surrounding the target symbol immediately change to green. As long as the target symbol is over the blue balloon and doesn't stray off into other areas of the image, which would cause Photoshop to sample a different colour, only the blue colour will be replaced with green.

Tolerance

To reduce fringing along the edges there are several options available in the Options Bar for altering the behaviour of the Colour Replacement Tool, and one of these options is **Tolerance**. The Tolerance setting determines how different a colour can be from the sampled colour for Photoshop to replace it with the Foreground colour. The default value is 30%, which is a good starting point. Unfortunately, it's not quite high enough in this case for Photoshop to be able to include the shade of blue right along the edges of the balloon. Increasing the tolerance level to 50% in this case solves the problem.



Sampling Colours From The Image

Rather than using a new colour for the balloon from Photoshop's Colour Picker, it could just as easily have selected directly from the photo itself. To do that, with the Colour Replacement Tool active, hold down your **Alt** key, which will temporarily switch you to the **Eyedropper Tool** (you'll see your cursor change into an eyedropper). Click on an area of the photo that contains the colour you want to use. Photoshop will sample that colour and make it your Foreground colour.



The Blend Mode

The reason the Colour Replacement Tool is able to paint a new colour over an object or an area of a photo without losing the texture detail is because it uses **blend modes** to blend the new colour in with the image. There's four blend modes to choose from (Hue, Saturation, Colour, and Luminosity), all of which can be selected from the **Mode** option in the Options Bar. The default blend mode is Colour.



Hue: The Hue blend mode will change only the basic colour itself. It will not change the saturation or brightness of the original colour. This mode is useful for images where the colours are not very intense and will usually produce very subtle changes.

Saturation: The Saturation blend mode changes only the saturation of the original colour. The hue and brightness are not affected. This is useful for reducing the intensity of a colour, or even removing colour completely.

Colour: Colour is the default blend mode and will change both the hue and saturation. The brightness will remain unchanged. This is the blend mode you'll use most often.

Luminosity: Finally, the Luminosity blend mode will simply match the brightness of the original colour to the brightness of the new colour. Hue and saturation are unaffected.